



EO 6687



**RIDE A COCK-HORSE**



*Marjorie Rader*

# Ride a Cock-Horse

And Other Nursery Rhymes

*Illustrated by*

MERVYN PEAKE

1940

Chatto and Windus

L O N D O N

**PUBLISHED BY  
Chatto and Windus  
LONDON**

**The Macmillan Company  
of Canada, Limited  
TORONTO**

**PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN  
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED**

# *Contents*

Ride a Cock-Horse	<i>page</i> 2
Rub-a-Dub-Dub	4
Old King Cole	6
I Had a Little Nut Tree	8
How Many Miles to Babylon ?	10
I Saw a Ship A-Sailing	12
The Man in the Wilderness	14
Doctor Foster Went to Glo'ster	16
Sing a Song of Sixpence	18
I Had a Little Husband	20
Little Jack Horner	22
Jack Sprat	24
Where are you going to my Pretty Maid ?	26
I Saw a Peacock	28







## *Ride a Cock-Horse*

Ride a cock-horse to Banbury Cross,  
To see a fine lady on a white horse ;  
Rings on her fingers and bells on her toes,  
She shall have music wherever she goes.



## *Rub-a-Dub-Dub*

Rub-a-dub-dub,  
Three men in a tub,  
And who do you think they be ?  
The butcher ; the baker ;  
The candle-stick maker ;  
Turn 'em out knaves all three.



## *Old King Cole*

Old King Cole was a merry old soul,  
And a merry old soul was he ;  
He called for his pipe,  
And he called for his bowl,  
And he called for his fiddlers three.

Every fiddler, he had a fiddle  
And a very fine fiddle had he ;  
Oh, there's none so rare  
As can compare  
With King Cole and his fiddlers three



Murray Peake



## *I Had a Little Nut Tree*

I had a little nut tree,  
Nothing would it bear,  
But a silver nutmeg,  
And a golden pear.  
The King of Spain's daughter  
Came to visit me,  
And all was because of  
My little nut tree.



Therese Rader

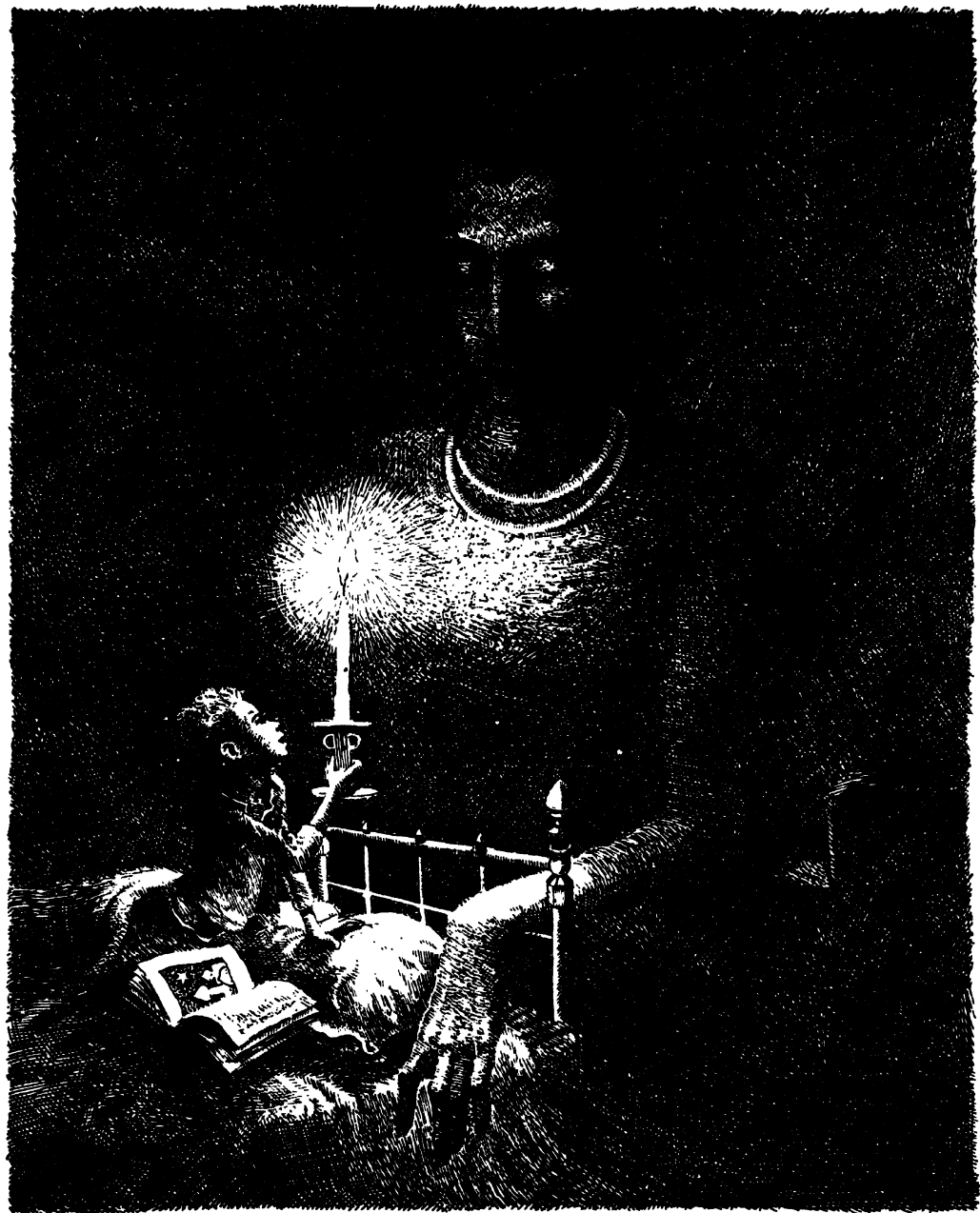
## *How Many Miles to Babylon?*

“How many miles to Babylon?”

“Three score and ten.”

“Can I get there by candle-light?”

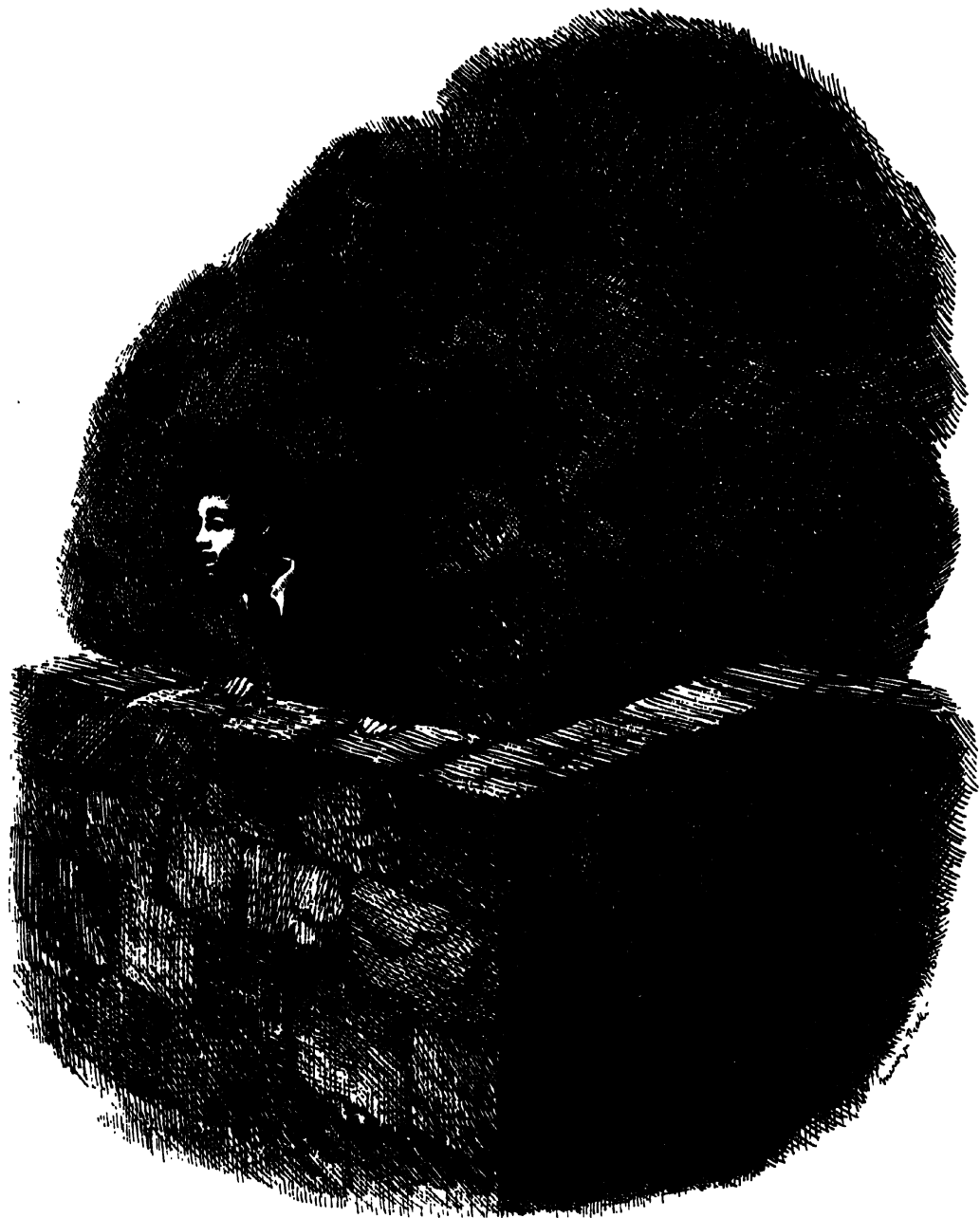
“Ay, and back again.”



## *I Saw a Ship A-Sailing*

I saw a ship a-sailing,  
A-sailing on the sea ;  
And Oh ! it was all laden  
With pretty things for thee !

There were comfits in the cabin,  
And apples in the hold ;  
The sails were made of silk,  
And the masts were made of gold.



## *The Man in the Wilderness*

The man in the wilderness asked me  
How many strawberries grew in the sea:  
I answered him, as I thought good,  
As many as red herrings grew in the  
wood.



max peck

N/2395

SALAR JUNG LIBRARY



*Doctor Foster went to Glo'ster*

Doctor Foster went to Glo'ster  
In a shower of rain ;  
He stepped in a puddle,  
Up to the middle,  
And never went there again.



## *Sing a Song of Sixpence*

Sing a song of sixpence,  
A pocket full of rye ;  
Four and twenty blackbirds  
Baked in a pie.

When the pie was opened  
The birds began to sing,  
Was not that a dainty dish  
To set before the King ?

The King was in his counting-house,  
Counting out his money ;  
The Queen was in the parlour  
Eating bread and honey ;  
The maid was in the garden  
Hanging out the clothes,  
When down there came a blackbird  
And pecked off her nose.



## *I Had a Little Husband*

I had a little husband  
No bigger than my thumb ;  
I put him in a pint pot,  
And there I bid him drum.

I gave him some garters  
To gather up his hose,  
And a little pocket handkerchief  
To wipe his pretty nose.

I bought a little horse  
That galloped up and down ;  
I bridled him and saddled him,  
And sent him out of town.



## *Little Jack Horner*

Little Jack Horner

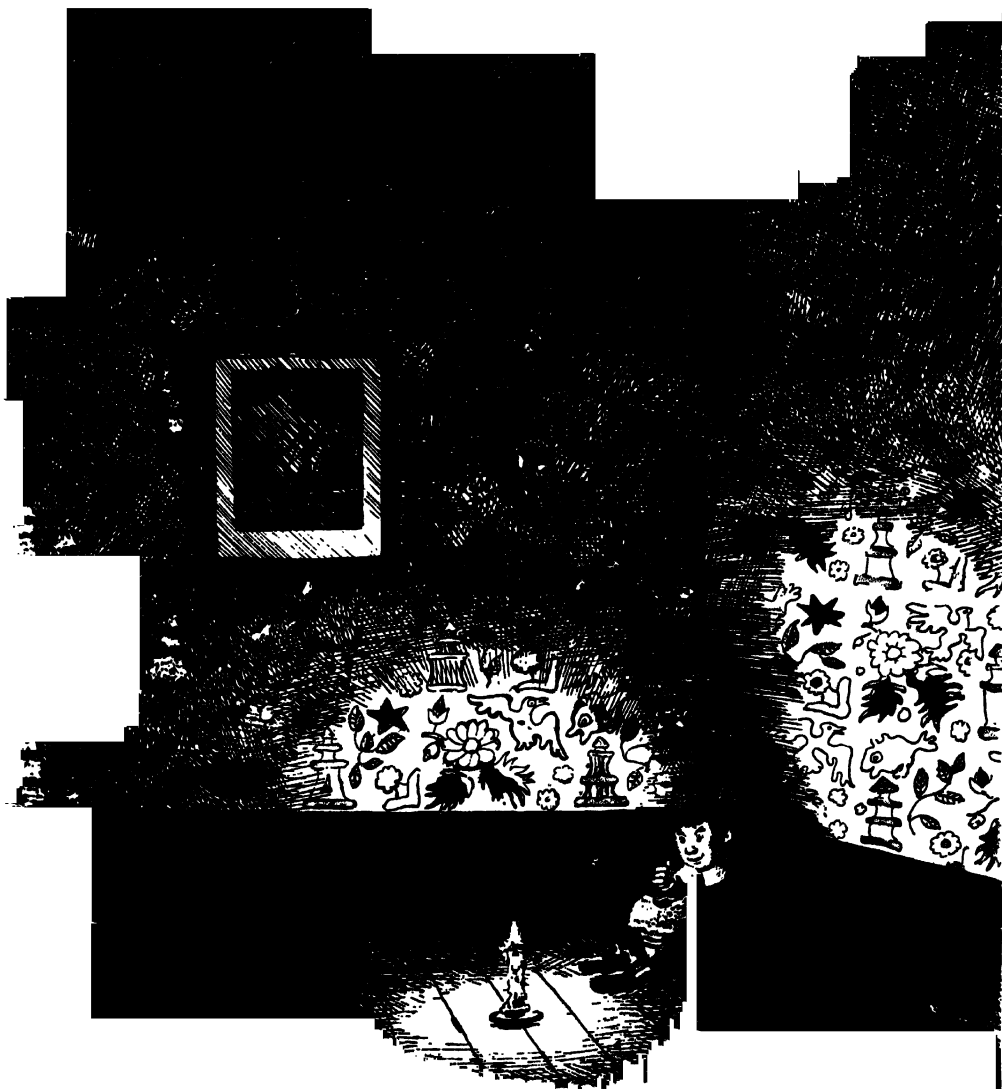
Sat in the corner,

Eating his Christmas pie.

He put in his thumb,

And pulled out a plum,

And said "What a good boy am I."





## *Jack Sprat*

Jack Sprat could eat no fat,  
His wife could eat no lean;  
And so betwixt the two of them  
They licked the platter clean.

Jack ate all the lean,  
Joan ate all the fat,  
The bone they picked it clean,  
And gave it to the cat.



*Where are you going to my Pretty Maid?*

“Where are you going to my pretty maid?”

“I’m going a-milking, sir,” she said.

“May I go with you, my pretty maid?”

“You’re kindly welcome, sir,” she said.

“What is your father, my pretty maid?”

“My father’s a farmer, sir,” she said.

“What is your fortune, my pretty maid?”

“My face is my fortune, sir,” she said.

“Then I can’t marry you, my pretty maid!”

“Nobody asked you, sir!” she said.



## *I Saw a Peacock*

I saw a peacock with a fiery tail  
I saw a blazing comet drop down hail  
I saw a cloud wrapped with ivy round  
I saw an oak creep on along the ground  
I saw a pismire swallow up a whale  
I saw the sea brim full of ale  
I saw a Venice glass five fathom deep  
I saw a well full of men's tears that weep  
I saw red eyes all of a flaming fire  
I saw a house bigger than the moon  
and higher  
I saw the sun at twelve o'clock at night  
I saw the man that saw this wondrous  
sight.





